Investment by Motorola Inc. U.S.A. in telecom sector

638. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Motorola Inc., USA had offered to invest an amount upto $ 100 million in India for any product in telecom sector;

(b) whether Motorola has withdrawn this offer as no decision was taken for a considerable period;

(c) if so, when the offer was made and when it was withdrawn;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Chairman of Motorola has written to the Prime Minister indicating the withdrawal of their offer in favour of China; and

(e) if so, what are the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Motorola Inc. U.S.A. had presented a perspective plan for an investment of over 100 million dollars in diverse sectors over a period of time. More specifically they made 2 proposals with foreign equity amounting to US $ 4.8 million which has since been approved.

(b) to (d) There is no reference in the letter from Chairman, Motorola to Prime Minister regarding the withdrawal of this offer in favour of China.

(e) Does not arise.

Appointment without approval of Public Enterprises Selection Board

639. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to atate :

(a) the number of cases where appointments were made without consulting the Public Enterprises Selection Board during each of the last three years; and

(b) the reasons therefor, in each case ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) : (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Performance of Public Sector Undertakings

640. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) what steps have so far been taken by Government to upgrade the technical expertise to make MOU negotiations with Public Sector Enterprises more effective as promised in the Industrial Policy Statement of July, 1992; and

(b) to what extent these measures have helped in improving the functioning of the Public Sector Enterprises ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES) (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) : (a) A two-way exchange of officers between Public Sector Enterprises and Government Departments with a view to upgrade the technical expertise to make Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) negotiation and implementation more effective is under active consideration of the Government. Training programmes on Memoranda of Understandings in collaboration with this Department have also been organised with a view to upgrade technical skills on both sides—Government Departments and the Public Sector Enterprises.

(b) It is too early to come to any definite conclusion on the effect of training programmes on the participants with respect to upgradation of their technical skills. However, it is noticed that Memorandum of Understandings (MOU) negotiations between the Ministries and the Public Sector Enterprises are smoother.

Performance of Public Sector Undertakings

641. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that MOU is an instrument for improving the performance of the Public Sector Undertakings;